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19 SEP 2001

214032US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SHINYA TAKAHASHI ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION :
(Based on PCT/JP00/08863)
FILED: HEREWITH :
FOR: VOICE COMMUNICATION :
DEVICE AND ECHO PROCESSING :
PROCESSOR :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 8, 13, 19-21, and 23 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows.

14. (Amended) A voice communication device according to claim 1, wherein the echo processing unit comprises echo suppressing means for suppressing the transmitting input signal including the echo at an attenuation value corresponding to the speaker amplification value output from the control CPU.

15. (Amended) A voice communication device according to claim 1, wherein the echo processing unit is formed of a digital signal processor.

26. (Amended) An echo processing processor according to claim 16, wherein an echo suppressing process for suppressing the transmitting input signal including the echo at an attenuation value corresponding to the speaker amplification value is performed in the echo reduction processing unit.

REMARKS

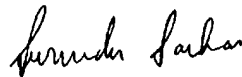
Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper condition under U.S. practice. By the present Preliminary Amendment the claims have been amended to no longer recite any improper multiple dependencies. Further, Claims 8, 13, 19-21, and 23 have been cancelled by the present response.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 8, 13, 19-21, and 23 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows.

--14. (Amended) A voice communication device according to [any of claims 1 to 10] claim 1, wherein the echo processing unit comprises echo suppressing means for suppressing the transmitting input signal including the echo at an attenuation value corresponding to the speaker amplification value output from the control CPU.

15. (Amended) A voice communication device according to [any of claims 1 to 14,] claim 1, wherein the echo processing unit is formed of a digital signal processor.

26. (Amended) An echo processing processor according to [any of claims 16 to 25] claim 16, wherein an echo suppressing process for suppressing the transmitting input signal including the echo at an attenuation value corresponding to the speaker amplification value is performed in the echo reduction processing unit.--